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THE DECORATOR AND FURNISHER

BOOK NOTICES.

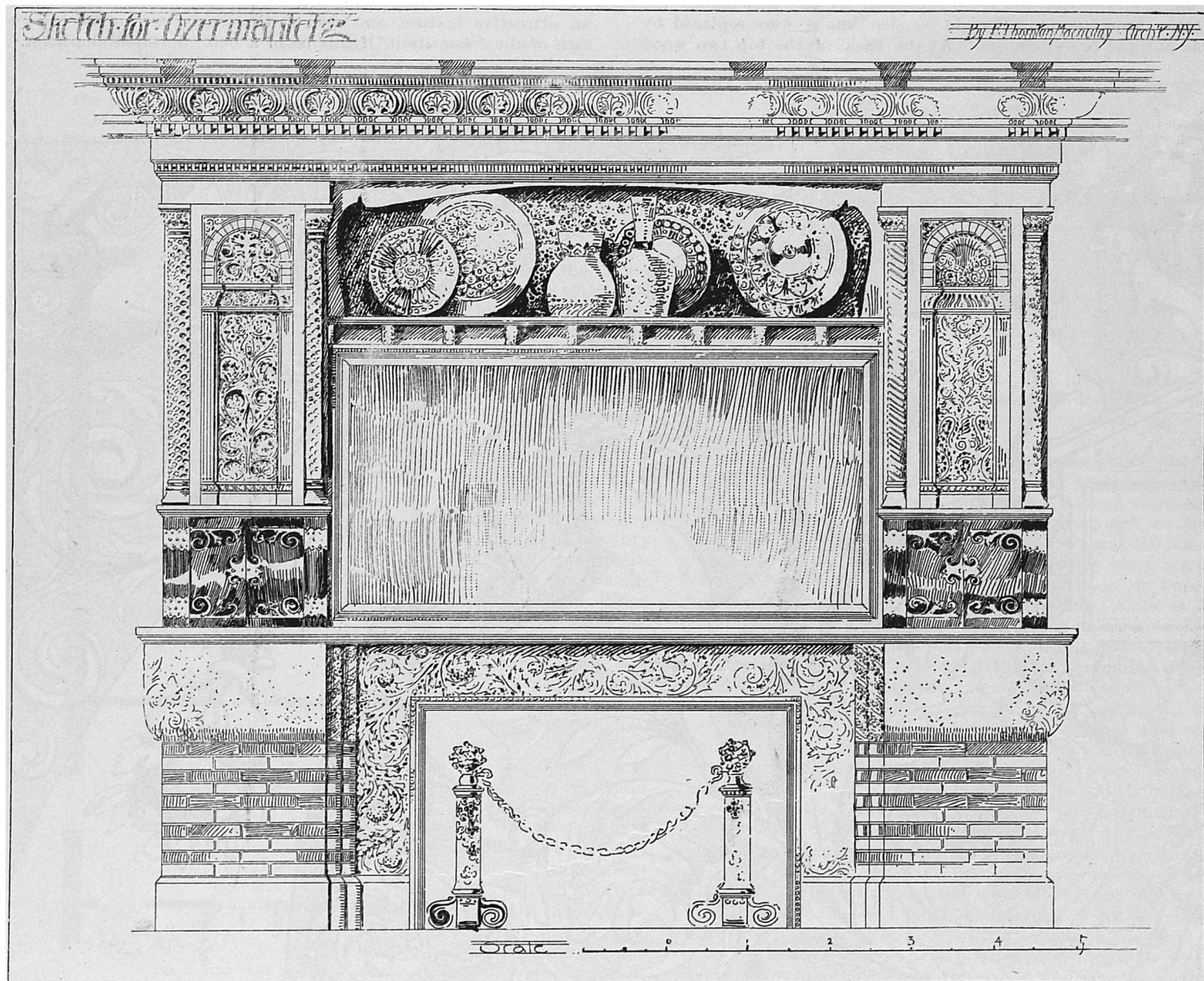
THAT Richard Frank White's "England, Without and Within," should have now reached its eighth edition in the publishing house of HOUGHTON, MIFFLIN & Co., is in no wise surprising, for there is no reason why its sale should not be as permanent and the demand for it as lasting as for any of the "standards" of the library. It is the most interesting book ever written on modern England. It takes one right into the hearts, homes, manners, customs, dress, etiquette, style, aims, duties, buildings, furniture, servants, traveling, scenery and real life of the English, "just as they are and just as we desire to know of them." Far more elaborate and minute a book than Emerson's "English Traits," which otherwise holds the attention quite as strongly, it is brought to date and is full to overflowing of incidents, anecdotes and all that is readable, besides giving the author's most valuable opinions. So many "flyers" have been written on "John Bull" lately, that it is a pleasure to read the observations of a man whose own social and literary fame gave him the entree to all classes of society, and whose remarkable care in all his expressions indicate the stability of his conclusions and the absolute reliance which may be placed upon his judgment. A novel could not be more entertaining.

M. A. RAGUENET, who is already favorably known to our readers as the editor of *Matériaux et Documents d'Architecture*, extended extracts from which have already appeared in our columns, sends us the first numbers of a new work entitled *Monographies de Batiments Modernes*, now being published by him. It will be issued in monthly parts, each containing eight pages of engravings and each being a complete presentment of one of the highest types of modern building. The first page shows a front view of the house, church, or whatever may be selected, followed by ground plans, side elevations and the various details of ornament and construction. The price of subscription is placed at 14 francs a year, which should be sent to M. H. Cagnon, 5 place Saint Michel, Paris, or to the publisher

of THE DECORATOR AND FURNISHER, who will gladly undertake to receive and forward ti. The initial numbers are certainly superb specimens of architectural drawing. In a private note M. Raguenet assures us that the work has already met with guarantees of a hearty and substantial success.

OF all quaint, bitter, satiric, sad thrusts at ingratitude in children, "A Millionaire of Rough and Ready," by the inimitable Bret Harte, is the keenest since Balzac's "Pere Goriot." The story of two fathers, with their respective families; the exciting interest of the strange mine; the vivid description of the fatal Christmas night, are all so realistic, yet so wholly new, that one reads breathlessly and with constant indignation. How natural it all is! The flighty, silly young girl, with her loud mother; the cold blooded son, squandering and useless; the strange streaks of honor and responsibility and generosity in the two old heroes, who hardly know who does and who does not own the famous mine! And with what skill the picture is drawn! Bret Harte loses nothing with years. He keeps up to the high stand he set long ago, and in every new creation of his fertile brain, we find something startlingly true to human nature; something imbued with vivid life, strong with its own dominating, fresh and energetic individuality.

DR. CHANNING'S granddaughter, Grace Ellery Channing, claims an especial interest for the origin and character of a little volume issued by HOUGHTON, MIFFLIN & Co., called "Dr. Channing's Note Book," being passages from the unpublished manuscripts of her grandfather. It seems that it was Dr. Channing's habit to make notes at all times, to jot down the train of thought suggested by the books he was reading, as well as his own solitary musings. This volume contains the pith and cream of these random or studied or personal thoughts, and are free of the "meat" of the education and genius of a great soul. It takes up no end of topics, as for instance, Freedom, Man, Self-Culture, Society, Love, Flattery, Conscience, Reason, Inspiration, etc., each having a number of striking paragraphs to illustrate it.



OVER MANTEL.

An essay in Romanesque and Byzantine forms applied to domestic decoration. Material: White oak, gilded and picked out in colors; cabinets in teak wood; fireplace piers are of glazed brick, in dark green and chocolate; stonework in red sandstone. The decorated portion surrounding the opening is in red terra cotta. The wood carvings are to be accentuated by deep cutting and a background of lustrous bronze.